

## ABSTRACT

A system and method to biometrically authenticate multifunction peripheral (MFP) users is disclosed. To prevent abuse by unauthorized use, a biometric image is obtained by scanning a user's fingerprint. In some implementations, the user may be prompted for a user name. The system  
5 retrieves at least one biometric key for comparison to the biometric image, in some cases using the user name to facilitate location of the biometric key. Where the comparison indicates a match, the user is allowed access to the MFP and resources on the network in a manner consistent with a policy, such as  
10 allowing the user the same permissions as would be the case if the user logged on to the network via the user's workstation. Accordingly, the user has the benefit of access to the MFP, while the network security is maintained.